

HONG KONG TOURISM BOARD 香港旅遊發展局



**Hong Kong Tourism Board
Submission to Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development on
Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030**

The Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) welcomes the release of the Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030 by the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA), which outlines the development needs and options for Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA), including the option of a three-runway system.

2. In considering the future development of the airport, the HKTB reckons the importance of maintaining a sustainable balance and the need to take into account the concerns of various stakeholder groups in the community.

3. From a tourism perspective, the HKTB believes that there is an urgent and critical need to map out the long-term development strategy of the airport, in view of the impending capacity crunch. This is important not only for addressing the demand arising from the growth in international and regional tourism, but also for upholding Hong Kong's competitive edge as a leading international aviation hub and a travel destination.

4. According to the Tourism 2020 Vision by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), international arrivals are expected to reach nearly 1.6 billion by the year 2020. The UNWTO also forecasts that Asia Pacific will be the fastest-growing region in the world, with international tourist arrivals increasing at an average annual rate of 6.5% to 416 million by 2020. In particular, Mainland China has emerged as one of the engines driving global tourism, and is fast becoming the world's most visited destination and the fourth largest outbound market.

5. Being the hub of Asia and the preferred gateway to and from Mainland China, Hong Kong stands to benefit from the tourism growth in the Mainland and the region. As set out in the Master Plan, the three-runway system would enable the airport to handle unconstrained demand up to 2030 and possibly beyond, at a practical maximum capacity of 620,000 flight movements and 97 million passengers per year. This would ensure that the air connectivity of Hong Kong and hence its advantages as an international business and transport hub, as well as a premier travel destination, is maintained long in the future.

Hong Kong Tourism Board
19 July 2011